

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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USEC BRUSSELS

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E.O.11652: N/A
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SUBJECT: DISMANTLING OF NATIONAL MOVEMENT MINISTERS TO RESIGN
AND RUN

1. NEWS REGARDING THE LONG AWAITED DISMANTLING OF NATIONAL
MOVEMENT HAS BEGUN TO FILTER OUT, ACCORDING TO WHICH THE
SECRETARIAT GENERAL OF THE MOVEMENT IS TO BE SUPPRESSED
AS A POLITICAL DEPARTMENT AND SOME OF ITS FUNCTIONS TRANS-
FERRED TO OFFICES UNDER THE PRESIDENCY.

2. THE PROJECTED REFORM, AIMED AT THE POLITICAL NEUTRALIZA-
TION OF THE MOVEMENT, HAS NOT YET TAKEN SHAPE IN ALL OF ITS
DETAILS, ACCORDING TO "EL PAIS", IN GENERAL, IT IS
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ANTICIPATED THAT CERTAIN SECTIONS, SUCH AS THAT OF POLITICAL
ACTION AND PARTICIPATION, WOULD SIMPLY DISAPPEAR, OTHERS,
SUCH AS THOSE OF FAMILY, YOUTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION
AND SPORTS, MIGHT COME UNDER A NEW GOVERNMENT AGENCY
TO BE FORMED FOR THE PURPOSE, AND STILL OTHERS, SUCH
AS THOSE OF TEACHING ACTION AND CULTURE, AND PRESS AND
RADIO WOULD PASS TO THE CORRESPONDING GOVERNMENT

MINISTRIES.

3. THE DISMEMBERING OF THE SECRETARIAT GENERAL, SAID "EL PAIS", WOULD MEAN THE DISAPPEARANCE OF THE CABINET SLOT FOR THE MINISTER SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE MOVEMENT, BUT FOR THE INCUMBENT MIGHT REMAIN IN THE GOVERNMENT AS MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO. SECRETARIAT GENERAL EMPLOYEES WILL BECOME GOVERNMENT EMPLOYERS WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES RIGHTS. SIMILAR STORIES, BUT WILL LESS AUTHORITY HAVE ALSO SURFACED THAT THE SYNDICAL RELATIONS MINISTRY MIGHT ALSO BE ABOLISHED SHORTLY

4. THIS DISMANTLING HAS ALWAYS BEEN A SINE QUA NON FOR THE TRADITIONAL OPPOSITION IN RESPECT OF THEIR CRITERIA FOR TRULY FREE, UNPRESSURED ELECTIONS. NOW, INTERESTINGLY THE FRAGA LED ALIANZA POPULAR ALSO CALLS FOR THE DISMANTLING OF THE NATIONAL MOVEMENT. THE AP FEARS AN UNFETTERED MOVEMENT APPARATUS MIGHT BE USED BY AN "OFFICIAL" PARTY TO MOBILIZE VOTES IN SMALLER POPULATION CENTERS WHERE THE AP HOPES TO DO WELL BECAUSE OF THE NATURAL CONSERVATIVE BENT OF THESE AREAS. IN RELATED MATTERS SEVERAL MINISTERS, INCLUDING MINISTER OF THE PRESIDENCY AND SECOND VICE PRESIDENT OSORIO MINISTER OF GOVERNMENT MARTIN VILLA AND SYNDICAL RELATIONS MINISTER DE LA MATA HAVE INDICATED POSITIONS AND RUN FOR OFFICE. THE FIRST TWO, AND POSSIBLE THE THIRD, CAN EXPECT SENATE SEATS AT THE HANDS OF THE KING, AND THE FACT THEY WILL NOT RUN SHOULD NOT OBSCURE THEIR CONTINUING POLITICAL IMPORTANCE.

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5. FOR THE RECORD, OSORIO HAD BEEN A PRINCIPAL PROMOTER FROM THE SHADOWS OF THE CENTRO DEMOCRATICO, WHICH HAS ENCOUNTERED SOME ROUGH SLEDDING. AT THE SAME TIME, AS A CONSERVATIVE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRAT OF UDE PERSUASION. HE HAS MAINTAINED CONTACT WITH RUIZ ET AL. THE POLITICAL PANORAMA HAS BEEN CHANGING AND WE DO NOT KNOW, AT WRITING, HIS VIEW OF THE LATEST EFFORTS TOWARD CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC UNITY (SEPTEL). BUT IT IS TRUE THAT IT IS EASIER TO BRING THE OLD UDE UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF ALVAREZ DE MIRANDA WITH OSORIO IN THE BACKGROUND THAN IT WOULD BE IF OSORIO WERE THE ACKNOWLEDGED UDE LEADER OUT FRONT.

MARTIN VILLA TOO HAS BEEN ACTIVE BEHIND THE SCENES IN PROMOTING THE IDEA OF A CENTER LEFT COALITION THAT WOULD BRING TOGETHER PROFESSIONALS FROM THE OLD FRANCO REGIME (THE GRUPO PARLIMENTARIO INDEPENDIENTE) AND ASSORTED SOCIAL DEMOCRATS (LASUEN, GARCIA LOPEZ PLUS THE PSOE "HISTORICALS" HERE AGAIN IT SEEMS

EASIER TO PUT TOGETHER THIS GROUP WITH MARTIN VILLA
BEHIND THE SCENES THAN IF HE STEEPED DOWN TO TRUN.EATON

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